

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 AF-10 EB-08
COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SCS-06 CA-01 HA-05 CG-00
DOTE-00 OES-07 IO-13 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00
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DRAFTED BY ARA/CCA:WSSMITH:YT
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USINT HAVANA NIACT IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PGOV CU

SUBJECT: BARTLETT RESOLUTION AIMED AT CLOSING INTERESTS
SECTION.

1. IN SURPRISE MOVE, SENATOR BARTLETT YESTERDAY PRESENTED
"SENSE OF THE CONGRESS RESOLUTION" TO BE ATTACHED TO STATE
AUTHORIZATION BILL. MEASURE CALLS FOR CLOSING OF USINT
AND DEMANDS WITHDRAWAL OF CUBAN INTERESTS SECTION HERE
UNTIL ALL CUBAN TROOPS REMOVED FROM AFRICA. IT PASSED
53 TO 29. RESOLUTION IS NOT LEGALLY BINDING BUT CLEARLY
PRESENTS POTENTIAL PROBLEM. HOPEFULLY, IT CAN BE DELETED
IN CONFERENCE.

2. PERTINENT TEXT OF RESOLUTION IS AS FOLLOWS:

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IT IS THE SENSE OF THE CONGRESS THAT THE PRESIDENT SHOULD
SEVER EXISTING DIPLOMATIC AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH
CUBA UNTIL SUCH TIME AS CUBA REMOVES ITS MILITARY FORCES
FROM AFRICA.

WHEREAS THE CONGRESS DEEMS THE REMOVAL OF A CUBAN MILITARY
PRESENCE IN AFRICA OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE TO THE SECURITY

OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE WORLD: NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE (THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
CONCURRING), THAT THE PRESIDENT SHOULD--

(1) RECALL THE UNITED STATES INTERESTS SECTION FROM CUBA
AND EXPEL THE CUBAN INTERESTS SECTION FROM THE UNITED
STATES.

(2) DENY ANY LICENSE FOR COMMERICAL TRADE WITH OR EXPORT
TO CUBA UNDER THE EXPORT ADMINISTRATION ACT OF 1969,

(3) REVERSE ANY OTHER ACTION TOWARD THE NORMALIZATION
OF UNITED STATES RELATIONS WITH CUBA, AND

(4) DEFER ANY FURTHER OFFICIAL ACTIONS TOWARD NORMALIZA-
TION OF UNITED STATES RELATIONS WITH CUBA, UNTIL SUCH
TIME AS ALL CUBAN MILITARY FORCES ARE REMOVED FROM AFRICA.

3. DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN MADE FOLLOWING STATEMENT AT
NOON BRIEFING TODAY:

THE BARTLETT RESOLUTION AIMED AT CLOSING THE U.S. INTERESTS
SECTIONS IN HAVANA WOULD DAMAGE IMPORTANT U.S. INTERESTS.

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OUR SECTION IS IN HAVANA TO SERVE U.S. INTERESTS, NOT
CUBAN.

IT IS THERE TO PROTECT U.S. CITIZENS IN CUBA.

IT IS THERE TO ORGANIZE THE REPATRIATION OF AMERICAN
CITIZENS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

IT IS THERE TO PRESS FOR THE RELEASE OF AMERICAN PRISONERS
AND TO GIVE AID AND COMFORT TO THOSE WHO REMAIN IN THE
FORM OF VISITS AND A LINK WITH HOME.

AND IT HAS HAD CONSIDERABLE SUCCESS; THERE HAS BEEN
FORWARD MOVEMENT IN ALL THESE ENDEAVORS.

THE SECTION WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN SECURING THE RELEASE AND
RETURN TO THE U.S. OF THREE POLITICAL PRISONERS AND THERE
IS HOPE FOR THE REMAINING FOUR--HOPE WHICH WOULD BE MUCH
DIMINISHED SHOULD THE SECTION BE CLOSED. SOME AMERICAN
CITIZENS AND THEIR FAMILIES HAVE ALREADY BEEN REPATRIATED,
AND THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT HAS JUST GIVEN THE SECTION THE
GO.AHEAD TO PROCESS FOR REPATRIATION ALMOST 500 DUAL-

NATIONAL AMERICAN CITIZENS AND THEIR FAMILIES. CLOSING

THE SECTION WOULD GREATLY LESSEN THE CHANCES OF RETURNING
THESE CITIZENS TO THE U.S.--SOMETHING FOR WHICH THEY HAVE
WAITED MANY YEARS.

FURTHER, OUR INTERESTS SECTION IN HAVANA REPRESENTS A
VALUABLE CHANNEL OF COMMUNICATION FOR EMERGENCY MATTERS
SUCH AS SHIP AND AIRCRAFT SEIZURES. IT HAS BEEN USEFUL
TO US TO WORK OUT ARRANGEMENTS ON MARITIME BOUNDARIES,
SAFETY AT SEA AND OTHER ISSUES WHERE THERE ARE MAJOR
BENEFITS FOR U.S. CITIZENS. IT IS IMPORTANT TO TALK;
FOR EXAMPLE, TO BE ABLE TO EXPRESS DIRECTLY TO THE CUBANS
OUR VIEWS ON INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS AS WELL.
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4. WE WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS.

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Message Attributes

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